

RICHARD J. DURBIN

ILLINOIS

DEMOCRATIC WHIP

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

COMMITTEE ON RULES  
AND ADMINISTRATION

**United States Senate**  
Washington, DC 20510-1504

May 24, 2017

Andrew Sawyers, Director  
Office of Wastewater Management  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1301 Constitution Ave.  
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mr. Sawyers,

I am writing to express my support for the use of Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) funding to support the Morton Grove and Niles Water Transmission, Storage, and the Pumping Facilities Project.

The Villages of Morton Grove and Niles have formed the Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission (MGNWC) to replace the City of Chicago with the City of Evanston as the wholesale water provider to the Villages. MGNWC is currently in the preliminary design phase of a new water transmission system that includes 20-inch and 30-inch diameter transmission mains, two pump stations, and a standpipe reservoir. A special request is made to accelerate the approval to allow MGNWC to meet its required construction schedule.

This project will be key to reducing utility costs to a region of municipalities beyond just the villages of Morton Grove and Niles. These wholesale cost reductions will allow the municipalities to reinvest in their significantly aged underground infrastructure, reducing fresh water waste caused by water main breaks.

Please give full and fair consideration to the Morton Grove and Niles Water Transmission, Storage, and the Pumping Facilities Project. If you require additional information, please contact my Chicago Director, Clarisol Duque, at (312) 353-4952.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator